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and of public spirit, which ought to have been followed by the press of the whole country to the present day to the great advantage of every public and private interest.

His literary gifts and faculties, so often brought into play for the public benefit and entertainment, were best and finally exhibited in his instructive and valuable autobiography, covering in fact more than fifty years of our national history—an important contribution to our annals, and it is hoped that this great work on which he was closely engaged almost to the day of his death may be completed out of the material which he has left.

As a great citizen of spotless character known of all men, his membership in this Board was of immense value to the Museum, the loss of which cannot easily be made good. By his death the Museum and the City have been deprived of a priceless treasure.

#### ANNUAL REPORT

THE Annual Report of the Trustees for the year 1911, which was read at the meeting of the Corporation, will be sent to all of the members of the Museum in printed form early in March. Copies of this report will gladly be sent upon application to any subscribers to the Bulletin who may desire them. We quote here the following paragraphs:

The members of the Museum do not receive their only information about its affairs once a year in the form of an annual report, but receive it twelve times a year through our monthly Bulletin. Our annual report, therefore, should be limited to certain information, largely statistical, which has customarily been given in previous annual reports in form for ready comparison with the statements of other years, and to a terse summary in proper perspective of some events that have already been chronicled in the Bulletin.

The events of the Museum year which stand out most prominently in this perspective are the opening of the Egyptian

galleries in ten rooms of our northern Fifth Avenue wing, and the demonstration by their arrangement of the ideal arrangement to which our Museum aspires, historically, educationally, and æsthetically; the four special exhibitions which have been held during the year under our new policy of loan exhibitions, which included Arms and Armor, a memorial exhibition of the works of Winslow Homer, American Colonial Silver, and American Colonial Portraits; the long delayed opening of our lecture hall and the beginning of its use in connection with the public school educational system of the city.

. . .

No one who has at all followed the development of the Museum in recent years can read this report attentively without becoming conscious of several profound impressions.

First and foremost, our Museum no longer appeals merely to the "upper classes"—the educated, the cultured, the rich. It has entered into the life of the people. The poorest child of the public school is welcomed as cordially as the wealthiest amateur and accepts our invitation as eagerly. The Museum has become an integral part of our city's educational system.

Again, the growth of the Museum is becoming symmetrical. There is no longer an overwhelming predominance of the fine arts of painting and sculpture, or a predominance of the fine arts of fashionable periods. All art of all periods, whether in or out of fashion at the moment, is being represented and will be increasingly represented under our present policy. To emphasize the development of our collections on the side of decorative and industrial art is no reflection on the supremacy of the fine arts; it is only to restore to all arts some degree of equilibrium.

Moreover, we are assembling an efficient staff in different departments. We have an organization. We are not depending on any single man, or indeed on any small group of men, for our continued growth.

Another profound impression is the de-

gree of public spirit which has prompted our citizens to give so liberally to the increase of our collections. In no country has that public spirit been so marked as in our own. In no direction is it more manifest than in the cause of art. That our Trustees and our members should give liberally might be expected, but that so many gifts should come from those who have no such relation to our institution is even more encouraging, as a forecasting of the future. Of the three largest bequests the Museum ever received only one came from a Trustee, that of John Stewart Kennedy, and two came from persons who were not members, who had never openly shown any interest, and who were not even residents of our city, Jacob S. Rogers, of Paterson, and Frederick C. Hewitt, of Owego.

The report contains a list of the Trustees and Officers of the Museum, the report of the President and Secretary, the report of the Treasurer, and a list of the accessions for the year. The tables of statistics which are appended to the history of the year's work will be found suggestive, particularly if compared with those of former reports.

The total attendance during the year shows a decrease from that of several preceding years, but the number of Saturday evening visitors has increased, as has, also, the holiday attendance. The number of readers in the Library, and the attendance of school children and teachers have been extremely gratifying. So, too, have been the use of the Museum by students and copyists, and the employment of the Museum Instructor.

The membership numbers 3,151, an increase of 51 over last year's figure. From the list of Honorary Fellows, two names have been removed through death — that of Alphonse LeGros, the distinguished painter, and that of our late Director, Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke.

#### POSTPONEMENT OF LECTURES

**O**WING to the indisposition of Mr. Edward Robinson, the lectures which he is giving on Greek Art in the Museum Lecture Hall will be discontinued for the present. Ample notice will be given of their resumption.

#### LECTURES TO TEACHERS

**T**HE second lecture in the course of talks to be given before teachers in the High Schools will take place on Friday, March 15th. Mr. Kenyon Cox, the distinguished painter and writer, will then speak on museums of art in their relation to the teaching of art in schools.

On March 29th, Professor Stockton Axson, Professor of English at Princeton University, will speak before the teachers of English; and on Wednesday, April 3d, Professor Oliver S. Tonks of Vassar College, before the teachers of the Classics.

All of these talks will be given in the Lecture Hall, and while tickets have been issued, they are sent chiefly as reminders and any person desirous of hearing the lectures will be welcome.

The hour set is half past four and admittance will be by the entrance on Fifth Avenue at 83d Street.